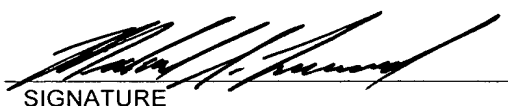


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|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES</b>  |   | <b>ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER</b><br>114208-040                                      |
| <b>DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)</b>   |   | <b>U.S. APPLICATION NO.</b> 10/525445<br><small>(If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)</small> |
| <b>CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>  |   | <b>PRIORITY DATE</b><br>September 6, 2002  |
| <b>INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.</b><br>PCT/JP2003/010945   | <b>INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE</b><br>August 28, 2003 |  |
| <b>TITLE OF INVENTION</b><br>INTEGRALLY MOLDED SURFACE FASTENER, AND CONTINUOUS PRODUCTION METHOD AND CONTINUOUS PRODUCTION DEVICE THEREFOR   |   |  |
| <b>APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US</b><br>Tsuyoshi MINATO, Eiji GONDA, and Mitsuru AKENO  |   |  |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:   |   |  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</li> </ol> </li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> </ol> </li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</li> </ol> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).</li> </ol> |   |  |
| <b>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information</b>  |   |  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> An application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:<br/>Application as published (WO 2004/021824 A1) including search report;<br/>Return receipt postcard.</li> </ol>  |   |  |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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|  |              |  |            |   |                 |
|--|--------------|--|------------|---|-----------------|
| U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 101.101)<br><b>10/525445</b>  |              | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br>PCT/JP2003/010945                     |            | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br>114208-040  |                 |
| 21. The following fees are submitted:  |              |  |            | Applicant use   | Office use only |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a) Basic national fee ..... \$300.00   |              |  |            | \$ 300.00   |                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b) Examination fee ..... \$200.00  |              |  |            | \$ 200.00   |                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c) Search fee ..... \$500.00   |              |  |            | \$ 500.00   |                 |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$1000.00  |              |  |            | \$ 1,000.00   |                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.   |              |  |            |   |                 |
| Total Sheets   | Extra Sheets | Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole) | RATE       |   |                 |
| 76 - 100 =   | 0 /50 =      | 0  | x \$250.00 | \$ 0.00   |                 |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).   |              |  |            | \$  |                 |
| CLAIMS   | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA   | RATE       |   |                 |
| Total claims   | 17 - 20 =    | 0  | x \$50.00  | \$ 0.00   |                 |
| Independent claims   | 1 - 3 =      | 0  | x \$200.00 | \$ 0.00   |                 |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (if applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |              |  | + \$360.00 | \$ 360.00   |                 |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =  |              |  |            | \$ 1,360.00   |                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.   |              |  |            | \$ 0.00   |                 |
| SUBTOTAL =   |              |  |            | \$ 1,360.00   |                 |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).  |              |  |            | \$  |                 |
| TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =   |              |  |            | \$ 1,360.00   |                 |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per  |              |  |            | \$ 40.00  |                 |
| TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =  |              |  |            | \$ 1,400.00   |                 |
| Amount to be refunded:   |              |  |            | \$  |                 |
| Amount to be charged:  |              |  |            | \$  |                 |
| <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account _____ in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-3189. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. <b>WARNING:</b> Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p> |              |  |            |   |                 |
| <p><b>NOTE:</b> Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.</p>   |              |  |            |   |                 |
| SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  |              |  |            |   |                 |
| <p>Michael S. Leonard<br/>         Everest Intellectual Property Law Group<br/>         P.O. Box 708<br/>         Northbrook, IL 60065<br/>         Tel: (847) 272-3400</p>  |              |  |            |   |                 |
|  |              |  |            | <br>SIGNATURE |                 |
|  |              |  |            | Michael S. Leonard<br>NAME  |                 |
|  |              |  |            | 37,557<br>REGISTRATION NUMBER   |                 |

DT15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 23 FEB 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED/DESIGNATED OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

Applicant(s): Tsuyoshi Minato et al.  
For: INTEGRALLY MOLDED SURFACE FASTENER, AND CONTINUOUS  
PRODUCTION METHOD AND CONTINUOUS PRODUCTION DEVICE  
THEREFOR  
Int'l Appl No.: PCT/JP2003/010945  
Int'l Filing Date: August 28, 2003  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned  
Filed: February 23, 2005  
Docket No.: 114208-040

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

MAIL STOP PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that the following documents relating to the above-identified application:

1. Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Submission under 35 USC 371 (2 pgs. – in duplicate);
2. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 (1 pg.);
3. English Language translation of the International Application as filed (65 pgs.);
4. Formal Drawings (11 sheets, FIGS. 1-20);
5. Declaration and Power of Attorney (4 pgs.);
6. Preliminary Amendment (10 pgs.);
7. Copy of International Publication WO 04/021824 A1, including a copy of the International Search Report;
8. Assignment Recordation Cover Sheet (1 pg.);
9. Assignment (2 pgs.);
10. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 (1 pg.);
11. Return Receipt Postcards (2).

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Express Mail Label No. ED381302965US

on February 23, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

EVEREST INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP

BY Judith L. Goldberg  
Judith L. Goldberg  
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Northbrook, IL 60065  
Phone: (847) 272-3400